

# U.S. Census Bureau News

---

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, D.C. 20230

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**10:00 A.M. EDT TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2006**

**For information contact:**

Nick Orsini (301) 763-6959

Vanessa Ware (301) 763-2311

CB-06-100, FT-900A (06-05)

## **Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products May 2006**

The U.S. Census Bureau, announced today that preliminary May steel imports were **\$2.5 billion (3.5 million metric tons)** compared to the preliminary April totals of \$2.3 billion (3.2 million metric tons).

The April to May change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected increases primarily in sheets hot rolled and blooms, billets, and slabs. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected increases primarily with Mexico, Egypt, and Japan.

The year to date final statistics through April 2006 showed steel imports of 13.6 million metric tons, an increase of 3.2 million metric tons from the 10.4 million metric tons through April 2005. The largest commodity increases were in blooms, billets, and slabs; and reinforcing bars. The largest country increases were with Turkey, Russia, and China. The largest country decrease was with Mexico.

### **Notes:**

**The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.**

*Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details visit the Foreign Trade Division web site at: [www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/](http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/). On the web site you can access product by country and country by product tables.*

*The next release is July 25, 2006.*